

11

BEFORE  
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF  
SOUTH CAROLINA  
DOCKET NO. 97-157-S - ORDER NO. 97-349  
APRIL 29, 1997

✓  
↓  
a

IN RE: Application of Bush River Utilities,     ) ORDER APPROVING  
      Inc. for Approval to Extend Service        ) EXTENSION OF  
      Area to Provide Sewer Service to One       ) SERVICE AREA  
      Residential Lot.                            )

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina ("the Commission") on the request from Bush River Utility, Inc. ("Bush River" or "the Company") for approval of an extension of its service area in order to provide sewer service to one residential customer. Bush River's request was filed pursuant to 26 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-504 (1976) and 26 S.C. Code Ann. Regs. 103-821 (1976).

On April 7, 1997, Bush River filed its request that it be allowed to serve one (1) single family residence located at 142 Latonea Drive in Columbia, South Carolina. Bush River states that it has been requested to provide sewer service to the residence by the owner. A letter from James E. Hollingsworth, owner of the home located at 142 Latonea Drive, requesting that Bush River serve this parcel of property is attached to Bush River's filing. Also accompanying Bush River's filing is a letter from Arthur H. Mullet, President and Treasurer of Mullet Columbia Corp. d/b/a Scottish Inn, which authorizes Bush River to make a tie-in to the

Bush River collection system through the connecting lines of the Scottish Inn motel.

By its filing, Bush River requests that the public notice and hearing be waived.

The Commission acknowledges that Bush River is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of South Carolina and is a public utility within the meaning of S.C. Code Ann. §58-5-10 (Supp.1996). As a public utility operating in the State of South Carolina, Bush River is subject to the jurisdiction of this Commission pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. §58-5-10 et seq. (1976), as amended. Bush River was previously granted a service area by this Commission, and rates and charges for sewer service have heretofore been approved by this Commission.


Upon a thorough review of the matters contained in the Application and the applicable law, the Commission finds and concludes that the notice and hearing in this matter should be waived. 26 S.C. Code Ann. Regs 103-510(3) provides that "in any case where compliance with any of these rules and regulations introduces unusual difficulty, such rules and regulations may be waived by the Commission upon a finding by the Commission that such waiver is in the public interest." Bush River's request and the accompanying documentation reveal that the residential property which is the subject of this request was served by a septic tank system which has failed. The owner of the property has requested service to his property as soon as possible. The owners of the properties affected by the connection have notice of

Bush River's request for the extension of service area to serve the property, and no other property owners are affected by the request to extend the service area. The Commission finds that these circumstances constitute a situation which would best be served by allowing the residential parcel to connect to the Bush River sewer system as soon as possible. Therefore, the Commission hereby finds that a waiver of the notice and hearing requirement in this case are in the public interest.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. The requests of Bush River to extend its service area to include the single family residence located at 142 Latonea Drive in Columbia, South Carolina is approved.
2. The schedule of rates and charges previously approved for Bush River by Order No. 96-44 (dated January 19, 1996) in Docket No. 94-728-S is approved for the service area approved herein, effective for service rendered on or after the date of this Order.
3. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

  
Chairman

ATTEST:

  
Executive Director

(SEAL)